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GARY PIERCE

BOB BURNS

BRENDA BURNS



CHAIRMAN

SUSAN BITTER SMITH

COMMISSIONER

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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COL.....

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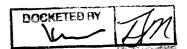
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DOCKET COMMISSION

Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PIMA UTILITY COMPANY, AN ARIZONA CORPORATION, FOR A DETERMINATION OF THE FAIR VALUE OF ITS UTILITY PLANT AND PROPERTY AND FOR INCREASES IN ITS WATER RATES AND CHARGES FOR UTILITY SERVICE BASED THEREON.

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PIMA UTILITY COMPANY, AN ARIZONA CORPORATION, FOR A DETERMINATION OF THE FAIR VALUE OF ITS UTILITY PLANT AND PROPERTY AND FOR INCREASES IN ITS WASTEWATER RATES AND CHARGES FOR UTILITY SERVICE BASED THEREON.

Docket No. W-02199A-11-0329

Docket No. SW-02199A-11-0330

RUCO'S RESPONSE TO PIMA'S PETITION TO AMEND DECISION NO. 73573

The Residential Utility Consumer Office ("RUCO") hereby files its Response to Pima's Petition to Amend Decision No. 73573. RUCO objects to Pima's request to impute income tax expense for all of the reasons cited in the underlying case as well as Commissioner Brenda Burn's Dissenting Opinion on the subject in Decision No. 73739. Requiring Pima's ratepayers to pay for a "phantom tax" which Pima as a corporate entity itself does not pay is not only unfair, it is wrong and will not result in fair nor reasonable rates.

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Moreover, the Commission's methodology for calculating the tax allowance is contrary to the weight of authority in the few states that have authorized an income tax allowance for pass through entities. Pima's shareholders are not required to produce their actual income tax statements. The Commission's new policy will allow Pima to recover an amount that is not even based on Pima's shareholder's actual income taxes paid. In other words, Pima will be able to recover an amount that the Company not only does not pay itself but is guaranteed to be different than the actual amount of taxes its shareholder's pay. Clearly, the approval of Pima's Petition, under no circumstances, is in the public interest.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 2nd day of April, 2013.

Daniel W. Pozefsky Chief Counsel

AN ORIGINAL AND THIRTEEN COPIES of the foregoing filed this 2nd day of April, 2013 with:

Docket Control Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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